

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:

Hartung, *et al.*

Appl. No.: 10/565,366

Filed: January 23, 2006

For: **Process for the Hydrogenation of
Aromatic Compounds**

Art Unit: 1764

Examiner: Shawquia Young

Atty. Dkt.: 7601/84486

Conf. No.: 5556

Response to Restriction Requirement

Commissioner of Patents
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Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

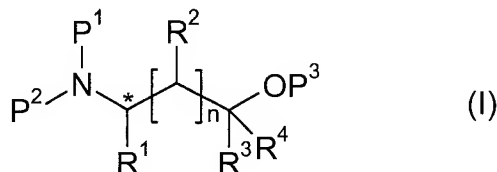
Sir:

This filing is in response to the Office Action dated May 16, 2008 in which the Examiner imposed a restriction requirement on the claims of the above-captioned application. The Examiner allowed Applicants to suggest their own restriction group which should be characterized by compounds all having a common core structure. In response, Applicants propose restricting all claims, 10-27 to substituted C₆-C₁₈ aromatic substituted amino acids and/or amino alcohols. Thus, in response to this requirement, claim 10, would effectively read:

10. A process for the hydrogenation of a C₆-C₁₈ aromatic substituted amino acid or C₆-C₁₈ aromatic substituted amino alcohol having an asymmetrical carbon atom, comprising hydrogenating said C₆-C₁₈ aromatic amino acid or C₆-C₁₈ aromatic substituted amino alcohol in the presence of a platinum-rhodium mixed catalyst.

Claim 19 would be restricted in accordance with the requirement to read as follows:

19. A process for the hydrogenation of the aromatic nucleus of a compound, comprising hydrogenating said compound in the presence of a platinum-rhodium mixed catalyst, wherein said compound has the general formula (I):



wherein

n can be 0, 1, 2

R¹ represents unsubstituted or substituted (C₆-C₁₈) aryl, (C₇-C₁₉) aralkyl,

R² denotes H, OH, (C₁-C₈) alkyl, (C₂-C₈) alkoxyalkyl,

R³ and R⁴ together denote an =O function or H or (C₁-C₈) alkyl, (C₆-C₁₈) aryl,

P¹ and P² mutually independently stand for hydrogen or an amino protective group or together stand for a bifunctional amino protective group,

P³ represents hydrogen or a hydroxyl protective group or carboxyl protective group and the C atom marked with * is an asymmetrical C atom.

As a species, Applicants would elect phenylglycine.

Applicants would not traverse the above grouping whether directed to C₆-C₁₈ aromatic substituted amino acids and C₆-C₁₈ aromatic substituted amino alcohols or to C₆-C₁₈ aromatic amino acids alone.

Applicants do not believe that any fees are required for the filing of the present document. Nevertheless, any fees that may be needed may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 50-4056 under Order No. 7601/84486.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a phone call would help to expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' undersigned attorney at (240) 683-6165.

Respectfully submitted,
Law Office of Michael A. Sanzo, LLC

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